

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago Public Information Officer 213-257-2000 RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

Jan. 19, 2017

Woodland Hills Fortune Teller Charged with Stealing Thousands from Clients

A woman who operated a fortune teller and psychic business in Woodland Hills has been charged with stealing thousands of dollars from her clients, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Anet Badali said Melissa Lori Lee (dob 9/28/88) of Woodland Hills faces four felony counts of grand theft of personal property in case LA085186.

Lee pleaded not guilty yesterday and is scheduled to return on Jan. 31 in Department 100 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch.

The defendant is alleged to have stolen the money in a time period spanning from January 2014 to June 2015, the prosecutor said. The four victims were clients of the fortune telling business located on the 5200 block of Topanga Canyon Boulevard, the prosecutor added.

Bail is set at \$80,000. If convicted as charged, Lee faces a possible maximum sentence of five years in jail.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Topanga Station.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.